Creation of a department for Commerce and Industries.

209. Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Referring to the request made by many of the non-official members of the Legislative Council in the last budget session for creating a separate department for Commerce and Industries, will the Government be pleased to state—(a) whether the Government have considered the matter since then;

(b) whether the Government have approved of the proposal made by the non-official members?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—(a) and (b) The matter is engaging the attention of the Government.

Land value of land acquired for the Tanneries at Chalakkudi.

210. Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—Will the Government be pleased to state.—

what was the rate per cent at which the Government acquired lands for the site of the Tanneries at Chalakkudi?

Rao Bahadur Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.—The rate of land value paid for the sites acquired for the Tanneries at Chalakkudi varied from Rs. 5 to Rs. 11—4—0 a cent according to the nature of the several plots acquired.

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